

Development Challenges, South-South Solutions: May 2012 Issue

1) An Innovator's 'Big Chicken Agenda' for Africa

Increasing the quantity and quality of food in Africa will be critical to improving the continent's human development. And a key element in giving Africa a more secure food supply will be boosting science and knowledge on the continent and making sure it is focused on Africa's needs and situation.

One pioneering scientist is looking to the humble chicken to tackle two big problems in Africa: food security and household incomes. By pumping up the weight and productivity of African chickens, she hopes to eradicate hunger and boost household incomes.

Kenyan scientist Sheila Ommeh

(<http://www.awardfellowships.org/participants/success-stories/108-sheila-ommeh.html>) is showing how local knowledge can give farmers the edge when it comes to improving Africa's animal stock. An animal geneticist, she is trying to create a disease-resistant African chicken that can also produce plenty of eggs.

Her pioneering work is about trailblazing "a big chicken agenda in Africa," she explained to TrustLaw, a global hub for free legal assistance and information on good governance and women's rights.

She grew up in an area - Mount Elgon in western Kenya - where raising chickens was the primary source of both income and food. Her family raised chickens and the income from this helped to pay for her schooling.

Raising chickens is common in rural Kenya, and many of the people doing it are women.

Based on her experience, she saw how virulent diseases kill chicken flocks and destroy family incomes and disrupt lives - diseases like Newcastle (<http://www.avianbiotech.com/diseases/newcastle.htm>) and Gumboro (gumboro.com).

She works at the International Livestock Research Institute (ilri.org) based in Nairobi, Kenya. The ILRI "works at the crossroads of livestock and poverty, bringing high-quality science and capacity-building to bear on poverty reduction and sustainable development" and conducts research in Africa, South and Southeast Asia and China.

"I'm really passionate about giving back to the community an improved chicken that will really help their lives," she explains.

Another project she is working on is the development of a drought-tolerant chicken. This chicken could prove very helpful in parts of Africa suffering from drought and hunger, like in the Horn of Africa.

Women are considered to be the majority producers of food in Africa yet just one in four people working in agricultural research in Africa is a woman, according to TrustLaw.

Ommeh has a PhD in chicken genetics and is a staunch believer in seeking out solutions to Africa's problems within Africa: "In my view ... it's about time Africa looked for solutions in Africa for Africa," she told a group of British Members of Parliament.

She will continue her research by looking at native African chickens. She is worried indigenous African chickens are being wiped out by cross-breeding and the introduction into the continent of exotic breeds, which are making African chickens more susceptible to viruses.

Her goal is to produce a disease-resistant breed of chicken weighing four kilograms and laying 250 eggs a year. This would be a big increase on current average weights, and a trebling of the yield.

"Definitely the incomes of these households will increase and that will (create) a rippling effect that will trickle up ... And we hope that in 10 to 15 years the poverty issue in Africa will not be so serious," Ommeh said.

"Chicken is a small livestock but I believe it has the capacity to have a big impact."

For female scientists working in agriculture, African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) (<http://awardfellowships.org/>) is seeking researchers looking to boost their technical and leadership skills. It is hoped that supporting more women researchers will have the effect of turning research priorities towards the needs of smallholder farmers, who make up the majority of farmers in Africa.

LINKS:

1) Artificial chicken: The contest to create artificial chicken meat offers a US \$1 million prize. **Website:**

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2012/jan/21/artificial-chicken-food-prize>

2) Poultry Hub: "Poultry Hub can help you learn more about the amazing world of poultry and your place in it. Poultry is one of the world's most technically advanced agricultural industries, offering rewarding career paths to talented young people in hundreds of countries." The Hub includes the excellent "anatomy of the chicken" learning resource. **Website:**

<http://www.poultryhub.org/organisations/rural-industries-research-and-development-corporation-rirdc-chicken-meat-program/>

3) Poultry Research Centre: From the University of Alberta, the website offers resources and contacts on poultry sciences. **Website:**

<http://www.poultryresearchcentre.com/>

4) Chickens: Basic information on chickens and their origins. **Website:**

<http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Chicken.aspx>

2) New Swimwear for Plus-size Women in Brazil

Brazil is well known for its stylish swimwear, with styles usually targeted at young women and those with more conventional, media-friendly body shapes. But now a company is making visiting the beach more comfortable and empowering for plus-size women.

Prior to the arrival of plus-size swimwear, women turned to over-sized t-shirts and baggy shorts to hit the beach. Now, Brazilian companies are pioneering fashionable and sexy swimwear for women of all sizes.

Brazil has a well-known beach culture – a culture celebrated over the years in popular pop tunes like ‘The Girl From Ipanema’ (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Girl_from_Ipanema). The country has successfully turned its alluring beach culture into lucrative businesses, including fashion enterprises that have become global brands. The global hit brand of beach flip flops Havaianas (havaianas.com) is a good example.

Lehona (lehona.com.br) makes ‘Moda Praia’ – plus-size – swimwear for women. The swimsuits are specially designed to flatter larger body shapes and give women the confidence to go back to the beach. It is seeking to end the discrimination inherent in beach culture that favours the "thin, the rich and the chic."

Body shapes have been changing in Brazil – as they have been across the world and the global South. While one cause is the global obesity crisis - ballooning as diets change with rising prosperity - there is also another, more positive cause: greater access to nutrition and increasing consumption of milk and meat tends to lead to larger body shapes. This has happened across the world and in many countries irrespective of the racial and ethnic background of the people. Norwegians in Northern Europe were once some of the shortest people in Europe and suffered from poverty and malnutrition. But, as food security increased and nutrition improved, they have over time become the second tallest people in Europe behind the Netherlands (The Changing Body: Health, Nutrition, and Human Development in the Western World since 1700).

For Brazil, malnutrition was widespread until recently. Records show 10 per cent of the country’s rural northeast in the 1970s was considered underweight.

The Brazilian statistics institute has found the past decade’s economic boom has had another consequence as well as lifting many millions out of poverty. It has found 48 per cent of adult women and 50 per cent of adult men are now overweight. This compares with 1985, when 29 per cent of women and 18 per cent of men were overweight.

Diets have changed in the intervening years. Rice, beans and vegetables

are now in competition with potato chips, processed meats and sugary soft drinks.

And apart from nutrition and diet changes because of increasing incomes, there is also a cultural change. While the wealthy are more used to lifestyles with plenty of exercise, newly prosperous people do not necessarily have the fitness habit. One study found just 10 per cent of Brazilian teens and adults exercise regularly.

The Lehona brand has become a quick hit and receives many telephone calls and emails from would-be customers, its owners claim.

The Brazilian cultural expectation for women's beachwear is skimpy, showing more rather than less. This prejudices women who do not have slim body shapes or who are not under 30.

Started in 2010 by clothing designer Clarice Rebelatto and run by her son Luiz Rebelatto, Lehona was started out of personal need.

"Honestly, the problem went way beyond just bikinis. In Brazil, it used to be that if you were even a little chunky, finding any kind of clothes in the right size was a real problem," said Clarice Rebelatto, a size 10, to The Associated Press.

"And I thought, 'I'm actually not even that big compared to a lot of women out there, so if I have problems, what are they doing?'"

The approach to the swimsuits is counter to many other brands targeting plus-size women. They are bold and emphasize the shape rather than try to cover it up and hide it.

The brand sells itself through specialty stores for large and tall women in Brazil. A bikini sells for around 130 reais (US \$66).

"Some brands, they don't want their image to be associated with chunky women... Only the thin, the rich and the chic," Luiz Rebelatto told The Associated Press.

"We're working from the principle that bigger women are just like everyone else: They don't want to look like old ladies, wearing these very modest, very covering swimsuits in just black."

The plus-size market has even been taken up by conventional Brazilian swimwear manufacturer Acqua Rosa (<http://www.acquarosonet.com.br/site/>). It released its plus-size line in 2008 and claims sales now account for 70 per cent of their total sales.

One woman frequenting Copacabana beach (copacabana.info) in Rio de Janeiro is Elisangela Inez Soares. She is happy and confident with the new swim suits.

"It used to be bikinis were only in tiny sizes that only skinny girls could fit into. But not everyone is built like a model," concludes Soares.

LINKS:

- 1) Start a Fashion Business: A website packed with step-by-step advice on starting a fashion business. **Website:** startafashionbusiness.co.uk/
- 2) A website compiled by an American fashion expert on how to run a fashion business for profit. **Website:** <http://fashionforprofit.com/about-us/>
- 3) The catalogue for the Lehona swimsuit line. **Website:** http://www.lehona.com.br/pdf/lehona_moda_praia_plus_size.pdf
- 4) Miss Brazil Plus-Size Beauty Contest: **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHLflgXqgM>

3) Havana's Restaurant Boom Augers in New Age of Entrepreneurs

Cuba, the Caribbean island nation known for its 1959 revolution and its tourism industry, is undergoing a shift in its economic strategy. The country has had heavy state control of its industries and business activities since the country adopted the official policy of state socialism and joined the Communist economic sphere headed by the Soviet Union.

When the Soviet Union fell apart in 1991, Cuba was pitched into an economic crisis as it lost access to preferential trade subsidies. This period is known as the 'Special Period' (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_Period) and was marked by a severe reduction in access to fuel as supplies and subsidies from the Soviet Union disappeared. Some of the iconic images of the time include people abandoning their cars and turning to bicycles to get around, or using make-shift truck-buses packed with workers. Exports collapsed and slashed the size of the economy by a third.

Fast-forward to today, and tourism is booming. A record 2.7 million tourists went to Cuba in 2011, earning the country US \$2.3 billion. And it is catering to this tourism market that probably offers the best near-term opportunities. With wages still just 50 per cent of what they were in 1989 many are taking up this new opportunity to become entrepreneurs.

To become an entrepreneur, Cubans need to apply for a pink identification card with their name and photo and the words "Autorizacion Para Ejercer el Trabajo por Cuenta Propria." This gives authority "to work for your own account." With the card, a person can start a business, hire staff and pay them what they like.

Cuba's economy has been through many phases since the revolution, swinging between loosening up the ability of people to establish private businesses - and pulling back, restricting private enterprise. But since 2008, there has been a significant shift to encouraging greater private enterprise, entrepreneurship and the ownership of private property – once banned – to

stimulate the economy.

"This is the most important thing to happen in Cuba since the revolution in 1959," Juan Triana, senior fellow at the Centre for the Study of the Cuban Economy at Havana University, told The Sunday Times Magazine.

One visible sign of this change is the flourishing of what is called locally 'paladar' (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paladar>), or privately run restaurants.

Paladares are usually located in a person's home and staffed by family members. Their customers are a mix of tourists, expatriates living in Cuba, and Cubans with a high enough income to be able to afford restaurant meals. The cost of a meal in these restaurants can run from US \$40 to US \$60 for two people.

Stocking the kitchen is not easy. Cuba experiences food shortages and there is still rationing for many. Basics like eggs can be hard to find. As for exotic, imported ingredients, many chefs rely on visitors to stock their larders.

Cuba will have to re-build its food sector to make this a lasting improvement. The agriculture sector has declined and, where Cuba once provided a third of the world's sugar harvest, the country now has to import half of its food supply. Measures are in the works to change this, with smallholder farmers now able to own 165 acres of land and sell their produce to private customers and hotels.

One restaurant owner, Héctor Higuera Martinez, told The New York Times: "You dream up a recipe that you'd like to make but then you can't find the ingredients.

"One day you go out to get salt and there's no salt. And I mean no salt, Anywhere."

Martinez trained with a well-known Cuban chef and did a stint in Paris before returning to Havana. He has turned a 19th-century mansion into the restaurant Le Chansonnier (http://www.cuba-junky.com/havana/restaurant_le_chansonnier.html) and decorated the walls with the work of local artists.

Martinez sees the paladares as a turning point in changing Cuba's reputation for having boring food. "I believe we can play an important role in revolutionizing Cuban cuisine."

Cuba is making the difficult shift from having an economy where 80 per cent of activity is in the state sector, to a mixed model balanced between private and public ownership.

Havana's historic district offers tourists renovated colonial architecture mixed with shops, restaurants and bars. As a tourist strolls from the renovated district, they quickly come across the rest of Havana, which has beautiful

buildings from the colonial period, 1950s American-influenced architecture with its fading retro signage, and more utilitarian Soviet-era architecture. While charming and home to most of the city's residents, much of it is run-down and crowded and in need of investment and renovation.

But things are changing fast. Oyaki Curbelo and Cedric Fernando use spices brought in by visitors for Bollywood, their restaurant in the Nuevo Vedado area (<http://cubantripadvisor.com/destinations/havana-city-outskirts/bollywood-paladar/>). It has a small menu of Indian and Sri Lankan dishes, including shrimp curry with ginger and tamarind. The restaurant sources its curry leaves from a tree located in the Sri Lankan Embassy.

Another restaurant, Atelier (http://www.cubaabsolutely.com/articles/travel/article_travel.php?landa=70), located in a mansion in the Vedado neighbourhood, serves European Continental food and has a roof terrace letting diners enjoy the a view of the Havana skyline.

The restaurant Doña Eutimia (<https://www.facebook.com/paladardona.eutimia>) serves up Cuban favourites off the Cathedral Square. Specialties include a dish made of shredded beef with garlic, tomato, oregano and bay leaves.

At Vistamar (<http://www.stay.com/havana/restaurant/4249/paladar-vistamar/>), diners can enjoy garlic-laden lobster tails and lemon meringue pie. At the paladar Café Laurent (http://www.cubaabsolutely.com/articles/travel/article_travel.php?landa=71), the menu includes meatballs with sesame seeds and mustard in red-wine and tarragon sauce, according to The New York Times.

Habana Chef in the Vedado district (<http://cubantripadvisor.com/destinations/havana-city-outskirts/habana-chef-paladar/>) was started by Joel Begue and chef Ivan Rodriguez. Begue gained his experience in the state restaurant sector and took the opportunity to get a licence when the government offered them in 2011. He borrowed US \$25,000 to start the restaurant and has been able to pay back half so far. His current success is prompting him to look into opening a second restaurant in the capital.

An enthusiastic Andrew Macdonald, who is looking for investment opportunities for a half a billion dollar fund held by the Escencia Anglo-Cuban firm, told The Sunday Times magazine, "Cuba is the top emerging tourism market in the Caribbean by a mile, and it's in the top five emerging markets globally."

LINKS:

- 1) Advice on starting a restaurant and links to additional resources. **Website:** runarestaurant.co.uk
- 2) How to start a restaurant: From Entrepreneur magazine, a guide to the

planning required to start a successful restaurant. **Website:**

<http://www.entrepreneur.com/article/73384>

3) AlaMesa: A directory of restaurants in Cuba. **Website:** alamesacuba.com

4) Southern Innovator: Youth and Entrepreneurship Issue: The new global magazine is launching its second issue and is packed with innovative entrepreneurs and youth using business to tackle poverty. **Website:**

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/86451057/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2>

4) Global South's Rising Megacities Challenge Idea of Urban Living

The world crossed the threshold from being a majority rural world to a majority urban one at the end of the first decade of the 21st century. The reason for this is the fast-growing urban areas of the global South. And this is having a profound affect on how the world's people live.

Across the global South, there are many examples of unchecked growth leading to squalor and poor housing conditions, and in turn to poor health and high rates of crime and disorder. Yet, the urbanization happening today across the global South is unprecedented for both its speed and its scale. And, unlike previous surges in urbanization, it is this quality that is far more challenging for governments and policymakers.

Many countries and regions are experiencing highly stressed environmental conditions, with poor access to water and rising air pollution damaging human health, for example. But on the other side, there is also unprecedented change in technology and communications taking place. Every year, more and more of the world's population gain access to 21st century communications such as smart phones and the Internet or 'apps' (applications), allowing the exchange of solutions and ideas at a rapid pace.

Many are weighing up the benefits and downsides of such an urban, dense world. Denser cities make it easier and more efficient to deliver services, and proponents see a rapid rise in living standards in these megacities. Others see wide-scale poverty and vicious fights over resources in crime-ridden, unhealthy packed megacities. These pessimists point to current conditions in many megacities across the global South.

No matter what perspective, many agree there has to be a cultural change in how people live and behave to make the megacities work.

The contrasting approaches taken by two giants of the global South – India and China – provides lessons and ideas.

The first big push from rural to urban took place in Europe in the 19th century. In 1800, just three per cent of the world's population lived in cities. All the cities now seen as cosmopolitan hubs of economic and creative energy were just shadows of themselves prior to the 19th-century industrial revolution.

Lessons were learned from hard experience and one of the most important

lessons was this: if a city is to grow – and grow quickly – then it must plan for this growth and put the well-being of people at the centre of this plan. This is critical to ensure public health is improved and that the transition to more dense living conditions improves human well-being, rather than making it worse.

A megacity is a city with a population greater than 10 million people (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Megacity>). The number of such cities will double over the next 10 to 20 years and many of these cities are in south and east Asia. By 2025, seven of the world's top 10 megacities will be in Asia. Whole new cities are rising up that most people across the world have never heard about – yet.

One of the most rapidly urbanizing countries in the world is China. At the beginning of 2012, Chinese authorities announced the country was now a majority urban place, with most citizens living in cities. This population of 690.79 million people outpaced the rural population of 656.56 million people.

China is exploring a variety of solutions to making high-density city living work. Some of these solutions include creating multiplexes containing modern shopping, leisure, recreational and housing in one location. One example of this is The New Century Global Centre (<http://cd.qq.com/a/20101018/000099.htm>) in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan. It is being called the world's largest standalone complex. Chengdu is now a city of 14 million people and projected to be heading to 20 million people.

It includes design by noted Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid (zaha-hadid.com).

There are 1.5 million square metres of floor plans, two 1,000-room five-star hotels, an ice-skating rink, a 20,000 capacity marine park with 400 meters of artificial coastline and 5,000 square metres of artificial beach, including hot springs.

In contrast, the more chaotic and unplanned approach taken in India – also a country experiencing rapid growth in its cities – has come under intense criticism. Dr Rumi Aijaz of the Delhi-based Observer Research Foundation (observerindia.com) told The Guardian that Indian infrastructure improvements will be difficult to achieve: “Our urban areas are in a raw form. All the basics are at a very low level. And the Indian state has been trying for a very long time to address this but a lack of capacity and endemic corruption has meant not much success.”

In 2001, India had 290 million people living in cities. By 2008, this reached 340 million. It is predicted this will reach 590 million people – 40 per cent of the population – by 2030. McKinsey and Company (mckinsey.com) believe by 2030 India will have 68 cities of more than one million people, 13 will have four million people and six megacities will be greater than 10 million people.

India faces an urban infrastructure crisis of epic proportions, McKinsey

believes. Many millions will not have access to clean drinking water, adequate sewage, and will have to cope with poor transport.

China, on the other hand, has invested seven times more in urban infrastructure than India. And one example of how this investment pays off is Chengdu.

The fast-growing city of Chengdu's mayor is trying to manage growth directly through the city's policies. This involves managing the push and pull incentives driving people to cities and lifting the standard of living in the surrounding countryside.

Chengdu's mayor Ge Honglin told The Guardian: "The first thing I did was to improve the conditions – schools, shops, garbage collection, the sewage system. We had to cut the gap between rural and urban areas. If people could have a brighter future in the countryside, they'd stay there. So we're not seeing people swarm into the city... Instead there are people in the city considering moving to the country."

"Chengdu is the only super-large central city that has narrowed the urban-rural income gap alongside rapid economic growth in China," Ge said.

Hundreds of schools have been built surrounding Chengdu and partnerships made between rural and urban schools to help raise standards.

Chengdu is also pioneering new ways to address urban squalor with new information technologies. Patrols use mobile phones and cameras to document broken infrastructure and health and safety problems, and to locate and assist the homeless.

"You can barely see a beggar in Chengdu," said Gu. "We have a special system for monitoring them, and it works. Beggars are taken to the assistance centre, where they are given food and shelter and money to take them back to their home. If I say there are no more than 10 beggars on the street you will think there's some sort of tyranny, but there isn't. We're trying to solve their problems."

LINKS:

1) Endless City and Living in the Endless City: LSE Cities is an international centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science that carries out research, education and outreach activities in London and abroad. Its mission is to study how people and cities interact in a rapidly urbanizing world, focussing on how the design of cities impacts on society, culture and the environment. **Website:** <http://lsecities.net/publications/books/the-endless-city/>

2) Planet of Slums by Mike Davis: According to the United Nations, more than one billion people now live in the slums of the cities of the South. Mike Davis explores the future of a radically unequal and explosively unstable urban world. **Website:**

http://books.google.co.uk/books/about/Planet_Of_Slums.html?id=FToaDLPB2

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3) An infographic from The Guardian newspaper showing the rise of the megacity in world history. **Website:** <http://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-images/Observer/Pix/pictures/2012/01/21/urban2.jpg>

4) Arrival City by Doug Saunders: A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — unseen districts of rapid transformation and febrile activity that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

5) Global Urbanist: The Global Urbanist is an online magazine reviewing urban affairs and urban development issues in cities throughout the developed and developing world. **Website:** <http://globalurbanist.com/>

6) The Spirit of Cities: Why the Identity of a City Matters in a Global Age by Daniel A. Bell and Avner de-Shalit. **Website:** amazon.com

7) Rise of the Asian Megacity: **Website:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-13800944>

8) Capitals of the Connected World: Mapping the New Global Power Structure. **Website:** <http://www.theatlantic.com/special-report/capitals-connected-world/>

5) Frugal Innovation Trend Meets Global South's Innovation Culture

There is a trend occurring across the global South that some are calling the next great wave of innovation. It has different names but many are dubbing it 'frugal innovation'. Frugal innovation is basically innovation done with limited resources and investment. In short, innovation on the cheap but packing a big punch.

The phenomenon has several strands. One involves innovators and companies from the developed world setting up in the developing world and beta testing their inventions and innovations there. Another strand involves innovators in companies and governments in the global South increasingly targeting the so-called 'BOP' – bottom of the pyramid – market of the poor. Another strand is focused on capitalizing on innovations for tackling the problems of the poor that are coming from the poor. Many of these innovations are improvised solutions. They may not be slick but they solve a problem.

And finally, there are companies and entrepreneurs in the global South taking their innovations to the markets of the wealthy, developed countries and finding a welcome reception from price-savvy consumers.

In the global South, frugal innovation is transforming lives - and it is finding its way into developed, wealthy countries too. It has been celebrated in the new book *Jugaad Innovation: A Frugal and Flexible Approach to Innovation for the 21st Century* (<http://jugaadinnovation.com/>) by Navi Radjou, Jaideep Prabhu and Simone Ahuja. The authors are innovation experts with a wide mix of backgrounds, from an academic to a Silicon Valley "thought leader and strategic consultant" to the founder of a marketing and strategy consultancy specialising in emerging markets innovation.

The authors propose "jugaad innovation" as a solution to the urgent need to innovate quickly and efficiently in a fast-changing world where little can be taken for granted. This breed of frugal innovation comes from India. Jugaad is a Hindi word (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jugaad>) and basically means a work-around, improvised solution to a problem because it is cheaper. This is commonly used to describe makeshift vehicles people construct in India (<http://wheels.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/03/25/jugaad-cheaper-than-a-nano-but-watch-for-splinters/>).

As champions of the jugaad philosophy, the authors proclaim the old innovation paradigm is obsolete. The idea that throwing more capital and more resources at a problem will boost innovation, no longer works, they contend. Better results can come from being frugal and flexible. Being more creative allows for a fluid and improvised innovation culture to develop.

"In today's interconnected world powered by social media, top-down R&D (research and development) systems struggle to open up and integrate the bottom-up input from employees and customers," the authors say on their website.

"Jugaad on the other hand is flexible, frugal and democratic: it is often bottom-up rather than top-down and involves a much larger number of people beyond those who are typically tasked with doing innovation in corporations. The strength of jugaad innovators lies in their ability to get more from less, experiment continually, and creatively engage people who are typically left out of the innovation process."

And they have a message for the Western, developed nations. They must look to "places like India, China, and Africa for a new, bottom-up approach to frugal and flexible innovation," if they want to experience continuing prosperity in the 21st century.

For global South inventors, entrepreneurs and manufacturers, this will prove a great opportunity. As debt-laden Western consumers deal with their lower spending power and incomes, they will be looking for products that cost less and yet tackle problems and improve their standard of living with minimal expenditure.

The Indian company Mahindra and Mahindra (<http://www.mahindra.com/What-We-Do/automotive>) sells its small tractors to American hobby farmers. The Chinese company Haier (http://www.haier.net/en/about_haier/haier_global/china/) has a range of frugal products that have become popular sellers. They include air conditioners, washing machines and wine coolers. Haier is so successful with these products it has been able to capture 60 per cent of the market in these categories in the United States.

Some of the hallmarks of frugal products are their efficient production, rapid development cycle, lower price point, and appeal to poorer customers.

The book argues that adopting a "jugaad" mindset will enable people and companies to innovate "faster, better and cheaper," "generate breakthrough growth" and "outperform competition."

"Jugaad innovation has three major benefits. First, it is frugal: it enables innovators to get more with less. Second, it is flexible: it enables innovators to keep experimenting and rapidly change course when needed. Third: it is democratic: it can therefore tap into the wisdom of otherwise marginalized customers and employees."

"In contrast to the traditional structured approach to innovation, jugaad is inherently more customer-centric rather than technology or product centric. Because jugaad innovators seek to solve a customer problem first and then develop a suitable solution, jugaad is more market-based than more structured approaches (that may be driven by the motivation to develop technology for technology's sake) are."

There are so many of these innovations and inventions happening, a culture has emerged to gather and document them and share them with others.

A good advocate of jugaad innovators in India is the Honey Bee Network (<http://www.sristi.org/hbnew/>). It has been building a database of grassroots innovation and knowledge (http://www.sristi.org/hbnew/augment_innovation.php).

But this dynamic innovators culture is not limited to India. Across Africa, information technology hubs and start-ups have been sprouting up. One of the more well-known is the iHub in Nairobi, Kenya (<http://ihub.co.ke/pages/home.php>) but there are centres of information technology innovation in Ghana, South Africa, Uganda and Nigeria.

One of the more outstanding and pioneering chroniclers of this frugal innovation culture in Africa has been the Afrigadget website (afrigadget.com). It is packed with home-grown inventions. These include a young Kenyan boy using a rigged network of light bulbs to ward off lions from the cattle herd, a mobile phone security system for cars, and a home-made remote control toy car for children. Another great way to see this movement in action is at the Maker Faire Africa (<http://makerfaireafrica.com/>) which has been bringing together every year "handcrafters from Africa's tiniest villages to her most expansive urban burghs".

LINKS:

1) Anne Glover, Amadeus Capital: London-based investor looking for frugal technology innovations to invest in. **Website:**

<http://www.amadeuscapital.com/team/anne.php>

2) Cambridge University's Inclusive Design programme. **Website:**

<http://www.eng.cam.ac.uk/inclusivedesign/>

3) Stanford University's Entrepreneurial Design for Extreme Affordability

programme. **Website:** <http://extreme.stanford.edu/>

4) Santa Clara University Frugal Innovation Lab: **Website:** <http://www.scu.edu/socialbenefit/innovation/frugal/>

5) Makeshift Magazine: Makeshift is a quarterly print and online magazine about creativity in unlikely places, from the favelas of Rio to the alleys of Delhi. **Website:** <http://mkshft.org/>

6) India's Science and Technology Minister Vilasrao Deshmukh recently announced a US \$5 million contribution to a fund to invest in innovation by civil society and help scale-up. The country is also planning to set up 50 innovation clusters by the end of 2012. The clusters will help micro, small and medium enterprises and are being established by the National Innovation Council (NIC). **Website:** innovationcouncil.gov.in

Window on the World

Check out our website archive: southerninnovator.org

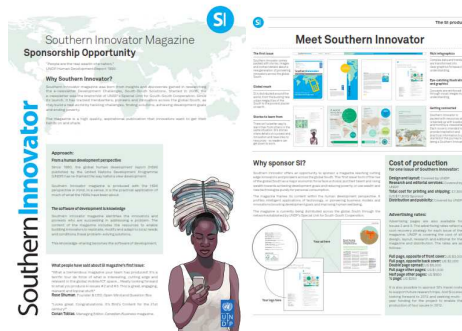
Southern Innovator magazine's second issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The second issue's theme is youth and entrepreneurship. View the issue online here:

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/86451057/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2>.

Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue and we can send you more information on how it works. Please contact the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

A peek at the cover is below:





Follow us on Twitter @SouthSouth1

Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific *tour de force* of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our SouthSouth Expo: 2012's Expo will be in Vienna, Austria:
www.southsouthexpo.org

Books

The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa by Calestous Juma,
 Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:**
http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html

The Coming Prosperity by Philip Auerswald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://auerswald.org/>

Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness. **Website:**
www.amazon.com

Emerging Economies: The Geopolitics of the BRICS Nations Publisher: Stratfor. They make up nearly half the world's population and wield significant influence within their respective regions. Combined, their GDPs are not too far behind that of the United States. Understand the geopolitics of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. **Website:** www.stratfor.com

China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization by Roselyn Hsueh, Publisher: Cornell University Press. **Website:**
www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** www.amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin, Publisher: The Chinese University Press. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. *Global Slump* analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, *Global Slump* challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job by John Howkins, Publisher: UQP. **Website:** www.creativeeconomy.com/think.htm

Breakout Nations by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. *Breakout Nations* offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

Light Manufacturing in Africa by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

Arrival City by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp

Papers and Reports

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa **Website:** www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report

World Economic Outlook Update: Restoring Confidence without Harming Recovery Publisher: IMF. **Website:** www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2010/update/02/index.htm

Empowering People and Transforming Society: The World Economic Forum's Technology Pioneers 2011 Publisher: World Economic Forum. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/35953976/Technology-Pioneers-2011

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD. **Website:** www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmp8lncrns-en (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. Working *Shifting Global Power*. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe. **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

The Global Financial Crisis and Africa's "Immiserizing Wealth" Research Brief, United Nations University, Number 1 2010. **Website:** www.unu.edu/publications/briefs/policy-briefs/2010/UNU_ResearchBrief_10-01.pdf

Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

Polis: A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy Website Launches

Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries.

Website: www.latameconomy.org/en/

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development.

Website: www.networkideas.org/

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

Website: http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment **Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community. **Website:** www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. **Website:** africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels.

Website: africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor

With “a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities.”

Website: <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** afrigadget.com

Interesting Blogger

White African: About high-tech mobile and web technology change in Africa.

Website: <http://whiteafrican.com/>

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas.

Website: www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

Start-up Funding

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

Website:

<http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&I=en>

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

Website: <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

Website: www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Challenge

InnoCentive (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without

credit being given to the inventor. **Website:**
www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Video

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:**
<http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

Events

2012

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

2012

May

Commission on Science and Technology for Development, 15th Session (UNCTAD)

Geneva, Switzerland (21-25 May 2012)

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The Commission provides the General Assembly and ECOSOC with high-level advice on relevant science and technology issues. UNCTAD is responsible for the substantive servicing of the Commission.

Website:

<http://archive.unctad.org/Templates/Page.asp?intItemID=3402&lang=1>

UNESCO Creative Cities Network Annual Meeting

Montreal, Canada (21-25 May 2012)

This annual gathering is an opportunity for UNESCO and the members of the UCCN to discuss topics relative to future developments of the Network, including funding, governance, admission of new cities, initiatives and projects underway, along with the international promotion and reputation of the UCCN.

Website: <http://mtlunescodesign.com/en/projet/Annual-Meeting-of-the-UNESCO-Creative-Cities-Network>

eLearning Africa 2012

Cotonou, Benin (23-25 May 2012)

eLearning Africa 2012 will explore key questions in ICT-enhanced education in Africa: How might eLearning be a vehicle for sustainable development in Africa? How can the public sector, private enterprises, education and society as a whole benefit from learning innovations which have the potential to drive education and training?

Website: <http://www.elearning-africa.com/>

Symposium on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change, 7th Session
Montreal, Canada (29-31 May 2012)

The symposium in Montreal will focus on the issue of ICTs, the environment and climate change in the world and the needs for the use of ICTs to promote environmental sustainability. Topics to be discussed will include mitigation and adaptation to climate change, e-waste management, disaster preparedness and emergency communications, cost-effective ICT technologies, methodologies for the environmental impact assessment of ICTs, challenges and opportunities in the transition to a green and resource efficient economy, among others.

Website:

<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&type=13&nr=637&menu=29>

2012 Tech4Dev International Conference: Technologies for Sustainable Development – A Way to Reduce Poverty?

Lausanne, Switzerland (29-31 May 2012)

The conference will look at how science and technologies can support both sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in developing and emerging countries. It aims to bring researchers and practitioners together to bridge the gap between the two communities, focusing on collaboration, methodologies, instruments and policies that could be used and/or encouraged. The possibility of a universal tool and policies for science, technology and innovation that could be of assistance in future collaborations will also be introduced.

Website: <http://cooperation.epfl.ch/2012Tech4Dev>

Groundwater Governance: Regional Consultation for Sub-Saharan Africa

Nairobi, Kenya (29-31 May 2012)

The overall project objective is to promote the sound management of groundwater resources in order to prevent and reverse the global water crisis.

Website: [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/africas-events/?tx_browser_pi1\[showUid\]=6583&cHash=06ada26ad2](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/africas-events/?tx_browser_pi1[showUid]=6583&cHash=06ada26ad2)

June

World Economic Forum on East Asia 2012

Bangkok, Thailand (20 May to 1 June 2012)

The 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) together form a region of strategic and economic importance with a combined population of over 600 million and a nominal GDP exceeding US\$ 1.8 trillion. With its ASEAN Economic Blueprint, the bloc has established concrete targets to form a single market and production base by 2015.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-east-asia-2012>

World Economic Forum on Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia 2012

Istanbul, Turkey (4-6 June 2012)

The pace and complexity of global change in recent years have been unprecedented, with Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia emerging as a key mega-region of the future. The World Economic Forum on Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia will therefore convene over 1,000 leaders in Istanbul, Turkey, to catalyse new partnerships for growth and human development.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-europe-middle-east-north-africa-and-central-asia-2012>

Aid and International Development Forum (AIDF)

Washington, D.C., USA (6 June 2012)

AIDF is a free to attend, annual global event dedicated to the effective delivery of humanitarian aid and development solutions. It provides an opportunity for those involved in the aid, relief and development sectors to network, build partnerships and address global humanitarian and development challenges. AIDF also allows delegates to learn about the latest products, technologies and services in action.

Website: www.aidforumonline.org

Tunisia National Electronics Week North Africa 2012

Tunis, Tunisia (13-16 June 2012)

The Tunisian electronics industry is a highly performing sector enjoying dynamic development at all levels. Exhibiting at NEW NA offers you the most cost effective way to penetrate this marketplace and with competitive exhibition space this really is a great opportunity.

Website: <http://www.nationalelectronicsweek.co.uk/NA2011default.asp>

Rio+20: United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (20-22 June 2012)

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) is being organized in pursuance of General Assembly Resolution 64/236 (A/RES/64/236). The Conference will take place in Brazil on 20-22 June 2012 to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in Rio de Janeiro, and the 10th anniversary of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg. It is envisaged as a Conference at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government or other representatives. The Conference will result in a focused political document.

Website: <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/about.html>

Forests and Trees: Serving the People of Africa and the World

Nairobi, Kenya (25-29 June 2012)

In June 2012, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) in association with the Forestry Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa (FORNESSA) will celebrate its first Regional IUFRO-FORNESSA Congress together with ITTO-AFF Forest Policy Day in Africa.

Website: <http://fornis.net/congress/en/homepage>

Agriculture Investment Summit: Europe

London, UK (26-28 June 2012)

The leading conference for investors looking to invest in agriculture as an asset class. The 5th annual Agriculture Investment Summit will guide you through the complexities of investing in agriculture as an asset class. Learn how to make the most of exposures in South America, Sub Saharan Africa, Central and Eastern Europe and Australia and New Zealand from Brasil Agro, TIAA-CREF, PKA Pensionskasse and Feronia Inc - Africa during the regional streams.

Website: <http://www.terrapinn.com/2012/agri/index.stm>

July

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

August

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Biodiversity Asia 2012: Science, Policy, and Governance

Bengaluru (Bangalore), India (7-10 August 2012)

This international conference is being organized in India to highlight the urgency of biodiversity conservation in Asia ahead of the 11th Conference of the Parties (CoP) of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to be held in India in October 2012. Biodiversity Asia 2012 will bring together researchers, policy makers, managers, students, teachers, NGOs, activists, and others working towards the conservation of Asia's biodiversity.

Website: <http://www.scbasia2012.org/>

3rd International Conference on Research for Development

Bern, Switzerland (20-22 August 2012)

Participants in the conference are expected to bring in multiple national and international perspectives on development-oriented research, policy dialogue, and practice aiming towards global transformation. The conference will have a strong focus on the global South; but the role of the global North will also be addressed. Further emphasis will be given to discussing research policy and funding in the North, including in Switzerland. In addition, the conference will take into account and critically review the outcomes of the international 'Planet under Pressure' science conference (London in March 2012) and Rio+20 (Rio de Janeiro in June 2012), and discuss the consequences of these global events for research partnerships.

Website: <http://www.icrd.ch/>

World Water Week

Stockholm, Sweden (26-31 August 2012)

Each year the World Water Week addresses a particular theme to enable a deeper examination of a specific water-related topic. While not all events during the week relate to the overall theme, the workshops driven by the Scientific Programme Committee and many seminars and side events do focus on various aspects of the theme. The current niche for 2009-2012 is

"Responding to Global Changes", which looks at the potential and necessary responses in water policy, management and development to address pervasive and increasingly impacting global changes.

Website: <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/>

September

The Second Global Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change

Ha Noi, Vietnam (3-7 September 2012)

Co-organized by Viet Nam and the Netherlands, in close collaboration with other partners, including FAO and the World Bank, the conference will allow global leaders, practitioners, scientists, civil society and the private sector to share experiences and demonstrate how early action on Climate-Smart Agriculture can act as a driver of green growth.

Website: <http://www.afcconference.com/background-note>

6th International Hybrid Rice Symposium

Hyderabad, India (10-12 September 2012)

The symposium aims to create a discussion platform that tackles the issue of increasing rice yields to adapt to the worlds' increasing demand for rice. The symposium will discuss the topics: Hybrid Rice Development; Hybrid Rice Seed Production; Applications of Molecular Technology; Crop and Resource Management, and; Hybrid Rice Economics.

Website: <http://hybrid-rice.org/>

The World of Rural Co-operation International Roundtable Event - How Rural Co-operative Enterprises Build a Better World

Dublin, Ireland (11-12 September 2012)

This invitation only roundtable event will be used to debate and discuss the impact and future of rural co-operation worldwide. This prestigious event will be a unique opportunity to share knowledge and expertise with rural co-operators from across the world to inform the development of a plan for the future development of rural co-operatives worldwide.

Website: <http://www.rural2012.coop/>

Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2012

Tianjin, People's Republic of China (11-13 September 2012)

The Annual Meeting of the New Champions is the foremost global business gathering in Asia. After five years, it is widely known as the Summer Davos – reflecting the “spirit of Davos” that for more than four decades has meant openness, collegiality and frank, yet friendly, exchange among leaders from business, government, academia, civil society and media.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/annual-meeting-new-champions-2012>

Making Cents' 2012 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference

Washington, D.C., USA (11-13 September 2012)

The conference will take place September 11-13, 2012 at the Inter-American Development Bank's Conference Centre in Washington, DC. Submit a

proposal to share your *lessons learned, promising practices, and innovative ideas* in one or more of the following learning tracks: workforce development; adolescent girls and young women; youth-inclusive financial services and financial capabilities; monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment; and youth enterprise development

Website: youtheconomicopportunities.org/how_to_submit.asp

Water Quality 2012

HangZhou, China (19-21 September 2012)

Water Quality 2012 will consider the range of issues and challenges that affect global water quality. By providing a forum for researchers, industry, policymakers and other stakeholders, the conference will identify the key concerns and big challenges of the future.

Website: <http://www.accwa.net/the-project/water-quality-2012/>

October

4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" - Measuring Well-being and Fostering the Progress of Societies

New Delhi, India (16-19 October 2012)

The goal of the 4th OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policies" is to assess progress in implementing the Istanbul Declaration (2007), to share results and lessons learned from work undertaken by OECD and other organizations, and to give impetus to concrete measurement programmes based on existing national and regional statistical capacities, mechanisms and tools.

Website:

http://www.oecd.org/document/47/0,3746,en_2649_33715_49312751_1_1_1_1,00.html

Integrated Soil Fertility Management in Africa: From Microbes to Markets

Nairobi, Kenya (22-26 October 2012)

This conference assembles the strengths of several organizations and collaborative research projects committed to designing, refining and delivering potent solutions to food insecurity and agricultural resource degradation in sub-Saharan Africa.

Website: <http://www.isfmafrica2012.org/index.html>

Second Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development

Punta del Este, Uruguay (29 October – 1 November 2012)

The GCARD II will focus on the ways to implement the tasks identified in the GCARD RoadMap with special attention to "Foresight and partnership for innovation and impact on small-holder livelihoods".

Website: <http://www.egfar.org/gcard-2012>

2012 African Economic Conference

Kigali, Rwanda (30 October – 2 November 2012)

The main objective of the African Economic Conference is to provide a platform for experts on Africa, both within and outside the continent, to reflect and dialogue on new directions for growth policy on the continent in order to

determine the best approaches to attain the Millennium Development Goals, achieve the objectives of NEPAD and accelerate Africa's sustainable development.

Website: <http://www.africaneconomicconference.org/2012/index.htm>

November

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Implementing Rio+20 for Drylands and Desertification

Sede Boqer Campus, Israel (12-15 November 2012)

The International Conference on Drylands, Deserts and Desertification (DDD) has emerged as an important global gathering of scientists, field workers, industry, government, CSOs, international development aid agencies and other stakeholders from over 60 countries concerned about land degradation in the drylands, and their sustainable use and development land degradation and development.

Website: <http://in.bgu.ac.il/en/desertification/Pages/default.aspx>

December

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Awards and Funding

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals. **Website:** www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

Website: http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf

Zayad Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy

Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

Website: www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for “simple solutions” that will improve people’s health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India’s rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India’s health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website:

http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

or contact:

namstct@vsnl.com,

namstct@bol.net.in,

apknam@gmail.com

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

Jobs and Careers

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market: **Website:**

www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes

and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects. **Website:** www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africacareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website:

<http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business

organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (now Zunia.org)

dgCommunities, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporaafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>